

AMENDMENTS**Amendments to the Claims**

- 1) (Currently amended) A method for extending the effective period during which tissue treated with a clostridial neurotoxin is paralyzed comprising:
 - a) contacting said tissue with a composition comprising an agent IGF-BP4 able to bind to an IGF-1 or an IGF-2; prevent the expression of a neurotrophic polypeptide, and
 - b) contacting said tissue with a clostridial neurotoxin: [[,]]

wherein neural sprouting in said treated tissue is inhibited binding of said IGF-BP4 with said IGF-1 or said IGF-2 prevents said IGF-1 or said IGF-2 from activating a cell surface receptor involved in the initiation of neural sprouting, thereby extending the effective period during which tissue treated with said clostridial neurotoxin is paralyzed.
- 2) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step a) occurs at the same time as said tissue is treated with said clostridial neurotoxin.
- 3) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step a) occurs prior to treatment of said tissue with said clostridial neurotoxin.
- 4) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said clostridial neurotoxin comprises BoNT a botulinum neurotoxin.
- 5) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said clostridial botulinum neurotoxin comprises a BoNT/A.
- 6-25) (Canceled)
- 26) (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said IGF-BP4 comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.